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Community *notes*

2018 HopeBowl for HopeWorks

Grab four of your most competitive friends, mark your calendar for Saturday, March 3, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. and register for this year's Hope Bowl! The Hope Bowl is one of HopeWorks of Howard County's main fundraising events, where teams of bowlers compete while raising awareness and critical funds for victims of sexual and domestic violence. The goal this year is to raise \$20,000; help them reach their goal. All of the proceeds from the event benefit HopeWorks' programs and services.

Visit Hope Bowl's [website](#) to register and start fundraising. Not a fan of bowling but want to contribute? You can do that [here](#). Thank you in advance for your contributions.

HCC Diversity Film Festival

Howard Community College will host a Diversity Film Festival February 26 - March 2. The collection of films, which span the past 30 years, honors the diversity within the college and the broader community. This event series is free and open to the public. The festival features daily showings in the college's Montebaro Recital Hall, located in the Horowitz Visual and Performing Arts Center.

The film on Monday, February 26 will be "A Better Life" (2011). The film tells the story of a gardener in East L.A. who struggles to keep his son away from gangs and immigration agents while trying to give his son the opportunities he never had. Showings will be at 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. For more information, please visit the [HCC website](#).

Greetings

In case you missed it, County Executive Kittleman will deliver his State of the County speech again tonight at 6:00 p.m. at the George Howard Building. It will also be available for [online streaming](#).

I hope you find something of interest in this week's newsletter; there are a lot of exciting upcoming events.

Howard County Girl Up Leadership Summit

On Saturday, February 24, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Miller Branch Library (Ellicott/Patapsco rooms), student leaders from Howard County will be holding the 2nd Annual Howard County Regional Girl Up Leadership Summit for all middle and high school students interested in gender equality and advocacy.

The summit will feature a day of panels with female professionals from the community, workshops on how to advocate for public policy, and a vendor fair where students can learn about opportunities to take leadership in other female empowerment campaigns in the Maryland area. Speakers include Nora Franco of the Planned Parenthood Metropolitan Washington Action Fund, Heidi Griswold of HopeWorks, and Tracy Turner, Executive Director of the Howard County Tech Council.

The cost of entrance is \$10, which includes lunch, and all of the proceeds will go directly to Girl Up campaign of the United Nations Foundation. Register your spot [here](#). Tickets can also be purchased at the door. If you have questions, please email centennialungirlup@gmail.com.

Women's Leadership Conference

The Howard County Chamber of Commerce will be hosting their annual Women's Leadership Conference on Thursday, March 8, 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at the DoubleTree Hilton in Columbia, MD.

This year's conference will feature keynote speakers Laura Gamble, Regional President of PNC Bank and Colonel (Ret.) Laurie Moe Buckhout, US Army, President and CEO, Corvus. The 2018 Women's Leadership Conference will also feature four sessions with panelists including Major General Linda Singh, Maryland National Guard and Jane Campbell, Current Director of the Washington Office for Advocacy's National Development Council and the first female Mayor of Cleveland. For more information and register, please visit the [event website](#).

"All She Must Possess" Production

From February 8 to 25, the Rep Stage will be performing "All She Must Possess," a show that depicts the highly theatrical life of two German-Jewish immigrant sisters, Dr. Claribel and Miss Etta. The performances will be held at the Horowitz Visual and Performing Arts Center's Studio Theatre and are open to all those ages 12 or older. For tickets, please visit this [website](#).

Octava Piano Duo



It takes two to play music written for four hands and two pianos. What happens when eight hands at two pianos are needed? Do not miss this opportunity to see the Octava Piano Duo's venture into multi-media technology in their performance of Smetana's beautiful work, the *Moldau*, as well as works by Saint-Saëns, Shostakovich, and Gershwin.

The show will be on Sunday, February 27, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at the Montebaro Recital Hall in the Horowitz Visual and Performing Arts Center. Tickets can be purchased online at the Horowitz Center's [website](#). Contact the Music Department for more information at 443-518-3005.

March Wilde Readings

Wilde Readings is Howard County's only monthly reading and open mic series. Celebrate the end of winter at the Columbia Art Center on Tuesday, March 13, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. with featured authors Edward Belfar and Michael Tims.

All are welcome. Participants are also encouraged to take part in the open mic. Please prepare no more than five minutes of performance time/two poems. Sign up in advance by calling the Columbia Arts Center at 410-730-0075, or when you arrive.

Light refreshments will be served. Books by both featured authors and open mic readers will be available for sale. For more information, visit the event [listing](#).

Zaching Against Cancer Gala

Join the Zaching Against Cancer Foundation for their annual Living the Dream Gala on Saturday, February 24, 6:30 - 11:30 p.m. at the M&T Bank Stadium. The Gala will benefit the Foundation and feature a night full of music, food, an open bar, and both a live and silent auction.

Ticket prices are \$175 per person and \$125 for anyone 25 years and younger. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit the Zaching Against Cancer website [here](#).

Meditation Class to Benefit Grassroots

Join PURE Meditation Studio on March 10 at 11:30 a.m. for a meditation class to benefit the Grassroots Crisis Intervention center. This 45-minute guided meditation class is part of the center's PURE Giving monthly donation based classes. You pay whatever you want and the studio will give 100% to benefit Grassroots Crisis Center. No registration required. A minimum recommended donation amount of \$10, in cash, will be accepted at the door. For more information, visit the event [listing](#).



Growing Small Fruits in the Home Garden

Learn how to grow small fruits in your garden! Discussed in this workshop are five fruits: strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, grapes and blueberries. The class is free of charge and will be held on Tuesday, February 27, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Amherst House at Kings Contrivance. For more information, please call the Kings Contrivance Community Association at 410-381-9600.

Family Watershed Exploration Event

Columbia Families in Nature and the Community Ecology Institute will be hosting a series of free workshops for Howard County families. This family-oriented educational program will teach adults and children alike about how to become active stewards of the Patuxent and Patapsco rivers and how the watershed works as a whole. The first session will be on Thursday, March 1, 3:00 p.m. Registration is required. Please visit their [website](#) for details.

Family Fridays Under the Dome

Treat your family to unique evenings at the Robinson Nature Center's "NatureSphere" planetarium. Each program features a full-dome movie preceded by a themed, family-friendly planetarium presentation. This month's theme is "Spring Stars." Come learn about the stars and constellations that dominate the spring sky and their place in historical myths and events. There will also be a full-dome movie and a telescope viewing demo afterwards.

The first session will be held on March 2. Tickets can be purchased for \$6 per person. Children must be ages 5 or older to enter. To register, call 410-313-0400 or click [here](#).

School Safety Forum

There will be a community forum on school safety and mental health on Tuesday, February 27, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at River Hill High School. Community members are invited to join school system leaders and representatives from local government and social service providers to share information, answer questions and concerns, and collaborate in developing solutions to ensure the safety of students and staff. If you wish to attend, please register [online](#).

Pi(e) Day at the Science Center



Pi(e) Day is a celebration of the mathematical constant Pi, a number used to calculate the circumference of a circle, and a celebration of the sweet, circular baked dessert! Pi is commonly known as 3.14, and will be celebrated

on March 14, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Join fellow math lovers to build a lengthy Pi chain as participants string the digits of Pi along the main staircase of the Maryland Science Center. Take a chance at getting Pi(ed) in the face during the Pi Roulette. Gather round as participants drop pie tins full of funky fillings off the roof to see which makes the biggest splat.

Make sure to save a little room for the pie eating contest because the winner goes home with a free pie from Dangerously Delicious Pies! For more information, visit MSC's [website](#).

FY19 Citizens' Budget Hearing

Howard County Executive Allan H. Kittleman will hold his second Citizens' Budget Hearing for the FY2019 budget cycle on Thursday, March 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Banneker Room of the George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive in Ellicott City.

Residents are able to sign-up [online](#) to speak at the hearing. Residents will still be able to sign-up in person on the night of the public hearing beginning at 6:00 p.m. Speakers must sign-up individually, and one person may not sign-up for several testifiers. For more information, please visit this [website](#).

Saturday Night Out at Robinson Nature Center

Don't decide between a show, getting dessert, or going on a hike for your Saturday night plans. Pick all three at the Robinson Nature Center! Back by popular demand, Baltimore Improv Group performs live- this time, inspired by outer space oddities. Participants will take a guided night hike under the winter constellations and warm up with a cozy planetarium show. Enjoy a gourmet s'more bar and hot cider during this out-of-this-world event! Buy your tickets early for a discounted pre-sale price. (Inclement weather date is March 10.)

This show is for ages 18 and over. Tickets are \$35 per person. To register, call 410-313-0400 or visit the event listing [website](#).

Upcoming Events & Reminders

Ladies Night Out

Friday, February 23 • 7:00 p.m.

The Hawthorn Center

Bring your best friends, your sister-in-law, and mom to see Reese Witherspoon adjust to life a single mother with the help of three young male houseguests and her mom, in the movie *Home Again!* Call 410-730-7327 to reserve your spot.

HC Library Evening in the Stacks

Saturday, February 24 • 7:00 - 11:00 p.m.

East Columbia Library

Join the Friends & Foundation of the Howard County Library System for the annual fête featuring some favorite collective memories from the 1950's to the 1980's. Expect great music, food and drink along with fun activities for all the guests. Tickets are \$150 per guest. Click [here](#) for all the details.

Seth Kibel and Sean Lane: The Birth of Bebop

March 5 • 7:00 pm - 8:30 p.m.

Ticket price: \$10

Columbia Art Center

The end of World War II also signified the end of the Swing Era, a period when jazz and popular music were basically synonymous. In the years that followed, a group of pioneering African-American musicians rebelled against the prevailing style and developed the next phase in jazz evolution — bebop. Initially cultivated in the after-hours jam sessions of Harlem, this new music found a home in the post-war years in the small nightclubs of 52nd Street in Manhattan. Seth and Sean will tell stories and perform music. For more information, visit the [website](#).

Soup'r Sundae

Sunday, March 18 • 11:00 a.m.

Wilde Lake High School

Support Grassroots Crisis Center at the annual Soup'r Sundae, a family event featuring soups prepared by area restaurants. Admission is \$20 per adult and \$5 per child under 12 and includes unlimited soup and bread and ice cream. Purchase your tickets ahead of time [online](#).



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